

## Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

IO-10 NIC-01 AID-05 OMB-01 /079 W

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R 010700Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5339

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, VS, NL

SUBJECT: FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEBATE: VIET NAM

REF: (A) THE HAGUE 978

(B) THE HAGUE 1031

1. FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEBATE CONTINUED FEB. 27 IN SECOND  
CHAMBER WITH MUCH OF DISCUSSION CENTERING ON VIET NAM.

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RADICAL (PPR) FLOOR LEADER, DE GAAY FORTMAN, IN ATTEMPT

"COMPROMISE" BETWEEN FONMIN'S DECISION MAINTAIN RELATIONS WITH SAIGON WHILE ESTABLISHING CONTACT WITH PRG, AND COMMUNIST PROPOSAL BREAK WITH SAIGON AND ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH PRG, OFFERED MOTION CALLING ON GON TO TREAT BOTH PARTIES ALIKE. RADICAL MOTION ASKS GON "IN HER FOREIGN RELATIONS AND DIPLOMATIC EXCHANGES TO MAKE NO DISTINCTION IN STATUS BETWEEN RVN AND THE PRG."

2. FONMIN VAN DER STOEL, WHO HAD MADE A CONCESSION TO HIS OWN PARLIAMENTARY PARTY PREVIOUS DAY IN PROPOSING TO HAVE AMBASSADORS IN PEKING AND PARIS ENTER INTO DISCUSSIONS WITH PRG REPS, ASKED DE GAAY FORTMAN TO WITHDRAW NEW MOTION, BUT TO NO AVAIL. D'66 MEMBER VAN MIERLO HAS INDICATED THAT HE MAY TRY AMEND RADICAL MOTION BEFORE VOTE NEXT WEEK BY INCLUDING DECLARATION THAT BOTH SIDES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR VIOLATING PARIS ACCORDS. SUCH AN AMENDMENT WOULD MAKE IT EVEN EASIER FOR MEMBERS IN FONMIN'S LABOR PARTY TO SUPPORT, BUT WOULD NOT MAKE MOTION ACCEPTABLE TO FONMIN HIMSELF, WHO CONCEDES POINT RE DUAL RESPONSIBILITY.

3. VAN DER STOEL NOW PLACED IN INCREASINGLY UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION OF HAVING HIS POLICY ON VIET NAM SUPPORTED ONLY BY CENTER AND THE RIGHT-WING OPPOSITION PARTIES. LABOR PARTY FOREIGN AFFAIRS SPOKESMAN TER BEEK QUESTIONED WHETHER CONTACTS BY FONMIN SHOULD BE SEEN AS "FUNDAMENTAL RECOGNITION OR AS DE FACTO RECOGNITION...THE GOVERNMENT REACTION WILL BE OF DECISIVE IMPORTANCE FOR US." IN VIEW OF FONMIN'S BASIC POSITION ON NON-RECOGNITION, AND ON NOT SUPPORTING ANY POSITION WHICH WOULD IMPLY DIVISION OF SOUTH VIET NAM, IT SEEMS UNLIKELY THAT HE WILL BE ABLE GIVE SATISFACTORY REPLY TO LABOR MEMBERS.

4. PARLIAMENTARY LABOR PARTY IS ITSELF IN SOMETHING OF A QUANDRY IN THAT IT ENTERED DEBATE WITH GOAL OF DIVERTING ATTENTION AWAY FROM NATO ISSUES BY FOCUSING ON VIET NAM. WHILE SUCCESSFUL IN BEING ABLE TO AVOID CONTENTIOUS NATO ISSUES, THUS SPARING THEMSELVES FURTHER EMBARRASSMENT OF OPENLY CLASHING ON NATO WITH FONMIN AND DEFMIN (ALSO OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEIR PARTY), LABOR PARLIAMENTARIANS HAVE HAD TO TAKE BACK SEAT TO COMMUNISTS AND RADICALS WHO HAVE SHOWN THEMSELVES MORE "PROGRESSIVE" ON VIET NAM. WITH APRIL PARTY CONGRESS ON NATO STARING THEM IN FACE, LABOR PARLIAMENTARIANS IN ALL LIKELIHOOD WILL FEEL CONSTRAINED GO ON RECORD IN SUPPORT OF MORE THAN VAN DER STOEL HAS OFFERED ON VIET NAM. GOULD

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
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